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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
LONG, ANDREA NATAE	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

MN

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/663,365	BERINGER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Andrea N. Long	2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 July 2007*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-25* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *19-25* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-18* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *07/23/2007*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 07/23/2007 has been entered.

Election/Restrictions

2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I. Claims 1-8, drawn to defining/associating attributes and constraints defined by a resource template for locating and retrieving relevant resources, classified in class 715, subclass 739.

II. Claims 19-25, drawn to modeling a process in terms of phases, flow blocks, and steps, classified in class 717, subclass 132.

3. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different designs, modes of operation and

effects (MPEP § 802.01 and § 806.06). In the instant case, the different inventions are as follows.

Invention I is substantially directed to defining a resource template to locate resources.

Invention II is substantially directed to a modeling process in terms of a process flow.

4. Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and there would be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is not required because the inventions have acquired a separate status in the art in view of their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

5. Newly submitted claims 19-25 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the reasons addressed above.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 19-25 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

6. The Examiner hereby elects Invention I to be examined on the merits and Invention II with its corresponding claims is hereby withdrawn for further consideration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coiera et al. (US 2005/0086204 A1), hereinafter "Coiera" in view of Fontana et al (US Patent 6167564), hereinafter "Fontana".

As to independent claim 1, Coiera discloses *a method comprising defining a set of attributes associated with at least one resource* (p. 3 paragraph [0045] through [0053] Fig. 6 → Coiera discloses that the profile consists of attributes such as date, duration, etc, which is used to search for resources which he calls sources); *associating a set of constraints with the attributes, the constraints corresponding to a context* (p. 3 paragraph [0037][0055] Fig. 6 → Coiera uses parameters as constraints for the attributes in a profile. Coiera further discloses that the search is dependent on the profile which includes the constraints for the attributes, once that profile is obtained then the context "data within the database to be searched" corresponding to the profile) *and being defined by a resource template* (Fig. 6, p. 3 paragraph [0045] → Coiera uses a graphical user interface as the resource template. In accordance with the Applicant's specification the resource template may be represented by a graphical object on a computer display device); *determining that a resource matches the set of attributes and constraints* (p.4 paragraph [0062] → Coiera discloses a search engine which uses the profile with which

attributes and parameters are stored); *and displaying the resource as a selectable resource graphical object on a user device* (p. 4 paragraph [0063], [0064] → Coiera discloses that the results are displayed by the interface). However, Coiera does not teach wherein the determining is performed in an enterprise management system.

Fontana teaches *an enterprise management system that comprises cross-functional applications to manage at least one resource* (column 2 lines 61-65 → Fontana teaches a system that build maintains and deploys business process applications), *the cross-functional applications comprising; a user interface* (Fig. 6 column 5 lines 42-48) *for linking business objects of an object modeling tool with business workflow of a process modeling tool* (column 3 lines 1-17, column 7 lines 25-60 → Fontana teaches linking domains, business models and components as part of the application's development).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the resource template of Coiera with the enterprise management system of Fontana to provide a defined business process, which can be implemented within multiple applications.

As to dependent claim 2, Coiera teaches wherein *defining the set of attributes comprises receiving information that defines an object class of the at least one resource* (p. 3 paragraph [0041], Fig 5 reference character 104 → Coiera discloses using a profile window and an advanced window search which allows a user to select searches which relate to a specific profile of attributes and parameters).

As to dependent claim 3, Coiera teaches *receiving information that defines an attribute associated with the object class* (p. 3 paragraph [0045] through [0053], Fig. 6 → Coiera discloses that the profile consists of attributes such as date, duration, etc, which is used to search for resources which he calls sources).

As to dependent claim 4, Coiera *teaches receiving information from a user device with a graphical display having an active area for the input of the information* (p.3 paragraph [0045], Fig 6 → Coiera discloses by his figures the fields that have user input which would be inputted with a keyboard or selected with a mouse).

As to dependent claim 5, Coiera teaches *displaying a selectable template graphical object on a graphical display device prior to the determining that a resource matches, the template graphical object representing an active area associated with the defined resource* (Fig. 7 reference characters 210, 211 → Coiera discloses in the figure the user input fields which are used to collect search criteria from the user before implementing a search).

As to dependent claim 6, Coiera teaches *defining the set of attributes comprises determining the set of attributes based on a profile of a user's interaction with a user device* (p.3 paragraphs [0045], [0054] → Coiera discloses the attributes correspond to a profile which can be saved for future uses and that the user can search keywords which are entered or selected by the user).

As to dependent claim 7, Coiera teaches *receiving a selection of the resource template* and *executing an application associated with the found resource* (p. 4 paragraphs [0063], [0064] → Coiera discloses displaying the search results in which the results may include a link which would execute the opening if the full document).

As to dependent claim 8, the Applicant discloses the resource templates may provide assistance within a guided procedure by limiting the set of proposed values to the pre-defined constraints. Coiera teaches *executing an application comprises executing the application with a guided procedure workflow* (Fig. 5 reference characters 100 & 104, Fig 6 reference characters 108 & 200 → Coiera discloses the guided procedure of limiting the constraints of an attribute for example "source" In Fig 6 has limited constraints for selection by the user).

As to dependent claim 9, Coiera teaches *wherein the resource comprises a datum* (p. 3 paragraphs [0063], [0064] → Coiera discloses that more detail information can be retrieved by selecting a link).

As to independent claim 10, Coiera discloses an *article comprising a machine-readable medium including machine-executable instruction* (p. 2 paragraphs [0033], [0034] → Coiera discloses a computing system to implement his searching system) *operative to cause a machine to define a set of attributes associated with at least one resource* (p. 3 paragraph [0045] through [0053] Fig. 6 → Coiera discloses that the profile consists of attributes such as date, duration, etc, which is used to search for resources which he calls sources); *associate a set of constraints with*

the attributes, the constraints corresponding to a context (p. 3 paragraph [0037] [0055] Fig. 6 → Coiera uses parameters as constraints for the attributes in a profile. Coiera further discloses that the search is dependent on the profile which includes the constraints for the attributes, once that profile is obtained then the context "data within the database to be searched" corresponding to the profile) *and being defined by a resource template* (Fig. 6, p. 3 paragraph [0045] → Coiera uses a graphical user interface as the resource template. In accordance with the Applicant's specification the resource template may be represented by a graphical object on a computer display device); *determine that a resource matches the set of attributes and constraints* (p.4 paragraph [0062] → Coiera discloses a search engine which uses the profile with which attributes and parameters are stored); *and display the resource as a selectable resource graphical object on a user device* (p. 4 paragraph [0063], [0064] → Coiera discloses that the results are displayed by the interface). However, Coiera does not teach wherein the determining is performed in an enterprise management system.

Fontana teaches *an enterprise management system that comprises cross-functional applications to manage at least one resource* (column 2 lines 61-65 → Fontana teaches a system that build maintains and deploys business process applications), *the cross-functional applications comprising; a user interface* (Fig. 6 column 5 lines 42-48) *for linking business objects of an object modeling tool with business workflow of a process modeling tool* (column 3 lines 1-17, column 7 lines 25-60 → Fontana teaches linking domains, business models and components as part of the application's development).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the resource template of Coiera with the enterprise management system of

Fontana to provide a defined business process, which can be implemented within multiple applications.

As to dependent claim 11, Coiera teaches wherein *instructions operative to cause a machine to define the set of attributes comprise instructions operative to cause a machine to receive information that defines an object class of the at least one resource* (p. 3 paragraph [0041], Fig 5 reference character 104 → Coiera discloses using a profile window and an advanced window search which allows a user to select searches which relate to a specific profile of attributes and parameters).

As to dependent claim 12, Coiera teaches *instructions operative to cause a machine to receive information that defines an attribute associated with the object class* (p. 3 paragraph [0045] through [0053], Fig. 6 → Coiera discloses that the profile consists of attributes such as date, duration, etc, which is used to search for resources which he calls sources).

As to dependent claim 13, Coiera teaches *instructions operative to cause a machine to receive information comprise instructions operative to cause a machine to receive information from a user device with a graphical display having an active area for the input of the information* (p.3 paragraph [0045], Fig 6 → Coiera discloses by his figures the fields that have user input which would be inputted with a keyboard or selected with a mouse).

As to dependent claim 14, Coiera teaches *instructions operative to cause a machine to display a selectable template graphical object on a graphical display device prior to the determining that a resource matches, the template graphical object representing an active area associated with the defined resource* (Fig. 7 reference characters 210, 211 → Coiera discloses in the figure the user input fields which are used to collect search criteria from the user before implementing a search).

As to dependent claim 15, Coiera teaches *instructions operative to cause a machine to define the set of attributes comprise instructions operative to cause a machine to determine the set of attributes based on a profile of a user's interaction with a user device* (p.3 paragraphs [0045], [0054] → Coiera discloses the attributes correspond to a profile which can be saved for future uses and that the user can search keywords which are entered or selected by the user).

As to dependent claim 16, Coiera teaches *instructions operative to cause a machine to receive a selection of the resource template, as receiving a selection from the resource template being the results from the search of the resource template, and executing an application associated with the found resource* (p. 4 paragraphs [0063], [0064] → Coiera discloses displaying the search results in which the results may include a link which would execute the opening if the full document).

As to dependent claim 17, Coiera teaches *instructions operative to cause a machine to execute an application comprise instructions operative to cause a machine to execute the*

application with a guided procedure workflow (Fig. 5 reference characters 100 & 104, Fig 6 reference characters 108 & 200 → Coiera discloses the guided procedure of limiting the constraints of an attribute for example "source" In Fig 6 has limited constraints for selection by the user). Note the discussion above in claim 8 about defining a guided procedure.

As to dependent claim 18, Coiera teaches *wherein the resource comprises a datum* (p. 3 paragraphs [0063], [0064] → Coiera discloses that more detail information can be retrieved by selecting a link).

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection as necessitated by the amendment.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrea N. Long whose telephone number is 571-270-1055. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs 6:00 am to 3:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on 571-272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Andrea Long
August 13, 2007

William L. Bashore
WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER